シュピアリア

シュピアリア 4

ichtys

GANGAN COMICS

SUPERIOR
ICHIYS

Superior 4 Contents

Story 10
Vow
ヴゥウ ——— 3

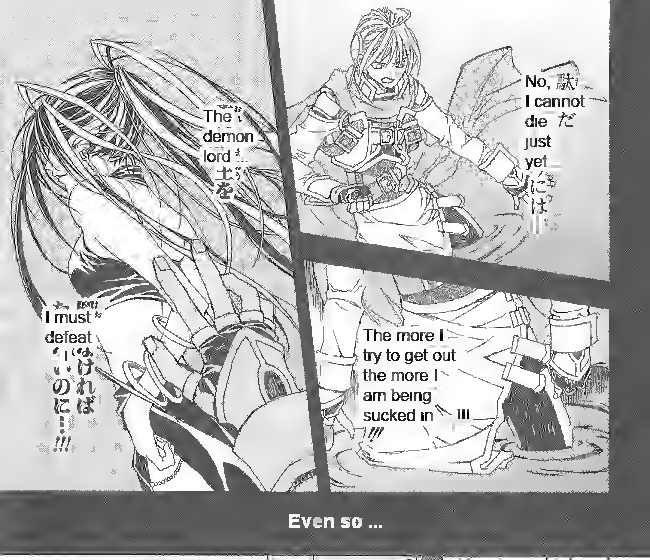
Story 11
End of Life
エンド オブ ライフ ——— 67

Story 12
Mirage
ミラージュ ——— 133

Darn ... !
Watch out !

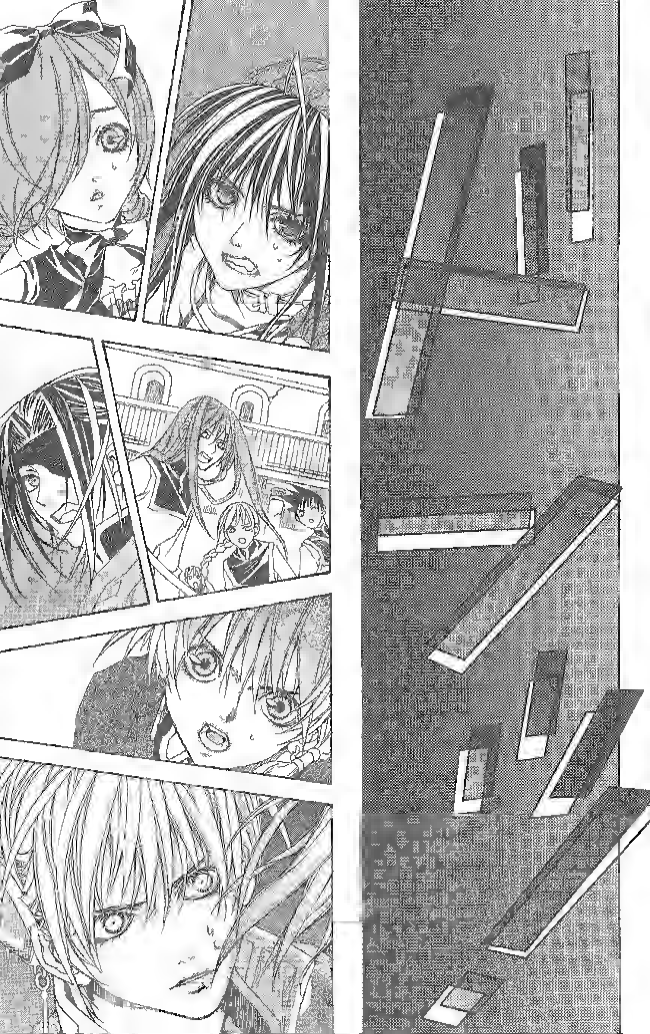
Story 10 Vow

Darkness
闇
Into
darkness
I'am
slowly
being
sucked
in
まれる


No, 獣 I cannot die だ just yet には!!
The demon lord 上を
I must 倒さなければ defeat いけないのに…!!!
The more I try to get out the more I am being sucked in !!!

Even so ...

Just sink to the, bottom ? しか か…?
Like this ..., will I just 完全に沈んで



Ra...

Missed tmng
Rakusyuri ?!

Are you alright ?!
Raku-syuri !
Ekusa! Raku-syuri !
Are you okay?
.... It's nothing.

We were told what happened.
!
.....
.....
Ekusa..., you left us blinded.
Sorry ...
Why did you ?
.....

That's it ?
.....
.....
That is all you can say ?
Sorry ?
Is that all you have got to say, I am asking !

You were almost killed while trying not to kill monsters and eventually overworked yourself !
You said not a word to your companions !
And you were to be executed by the king after honestly reporting what you've been doing !
When monsters invaded the castle, you chose to help them rather than run ?
Even with out your sword that will maximize your efficiency ?
You would have died, and the castle would have been overrun !

We came to help such a jackass !
A jackass who didn't even ask for help !
And "Sorry " is all you've got to say ?!
Why did you not want to ask for our help ?!

You are a hero
And your goal is to defeat the demon lord.
And that won't be easy.
So you should be using whatever help you can get!
And whatever method is available to you!
And we are the help.

But you are my friends ... I didn't want you to die because of me ...
This is why you have a long way to go Ekusa
When we decided to join you we were prepared to die
It is that you are not prepared to push us to death
Can't you realize yet ?
What you did to us did not mean your care !
It just means that we had to take on your childishness !

You were going to try killing the demon lord with such a weak determination ?!
Are you underestimating the demon lord or are you overrating yourself ?!

Well... let s take care ot this situation first...
I cannot distinguish which one s a human or which one s a monster so you tell me.
Your orders?
Ekusa, your orders.
Yes... I cannot be confused right now. There is an urgent task at hand...

Rakusyuri..
it s been
some time
but can you
fight with
everything
you have ?

!

I am certain
that your
relax will
be faster
Than my verbal
commands

Fine..
Well, the scabbards act a safety mechanism so that I won't harm people.
But, at the same time, they act as weights also.
That sound ...
His scabbard must be pretty happy.

Well, even without them,
I can still hit them backwards
Ekusa — two spells to such a wide area— that's too much
Angelica, can you cast shape identity and seal spells on the entire castle ?
That is why I am asking you

What is she going to do without her rod ?
Okay !
Rakusyuri ! Protect Angelica while she casts her spells !

It's not that
No
Don't you think that the hero has become stronger?
He has become faster.

Unless he is really good,
くては
It isn't that easy to support the hero like this
いて
It is that Rakusyun is good
He knows very well how the hero makes his moves, and he is supporting his offense and defense all together
して
I see
なるほど
This is why he is being called "right hand" man
右腕

Are you ready ?
Monsters
ヨル
What ?!
How can this be ...!

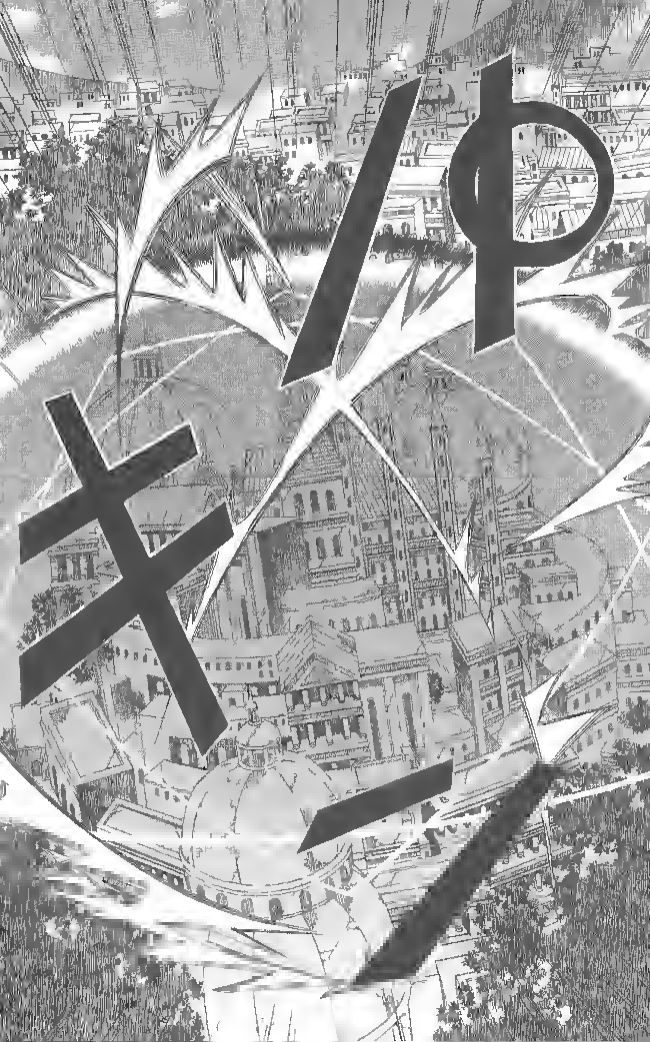
Normally, people including me use a gem to increase their powers
But it is different for Angelica.
I use a gem to seal and control
My power.
Sometimes a child with abnormal amount of mana is born between a monster and a human
I had been bullied due to this power.
Unwanted memories...
Painful past...
Everything

Well ...
If the result is good enough in the end, everything will be fine.
Angelica tries so that she can smile.
Appear -
Seal !!!

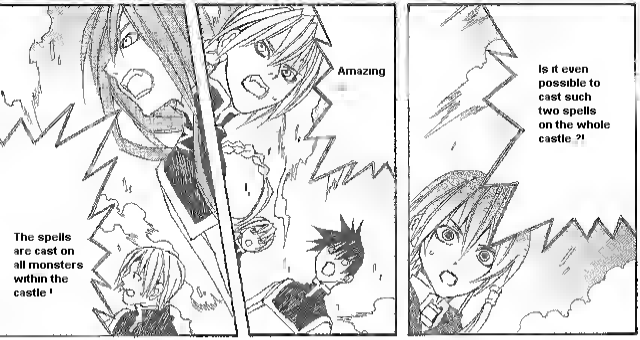
！
ビビビ

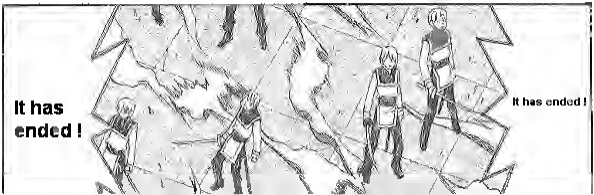
Yes
I am a monster, too
I forgot
And so did Angelica
She's been hiding this kind of powers
Angelica
アンジェリカ
ズコーン

ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ

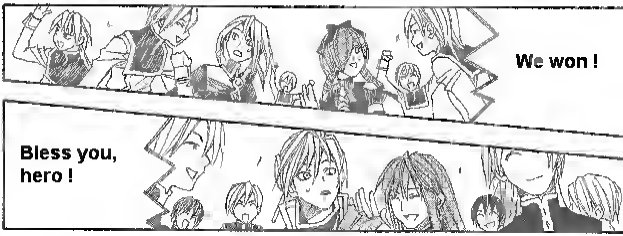


The spells are cast on the whole castle !


The spells are cast on all monsters within the castle !
Amazing
Is it even possible to cast such two spells on the whole castle ?!


It has ended !
It has ended !

We won !
We are victorious !


We won !

Bless you, hero !

In other words, stronger monsters...

But these spells would work on only weak monsters.

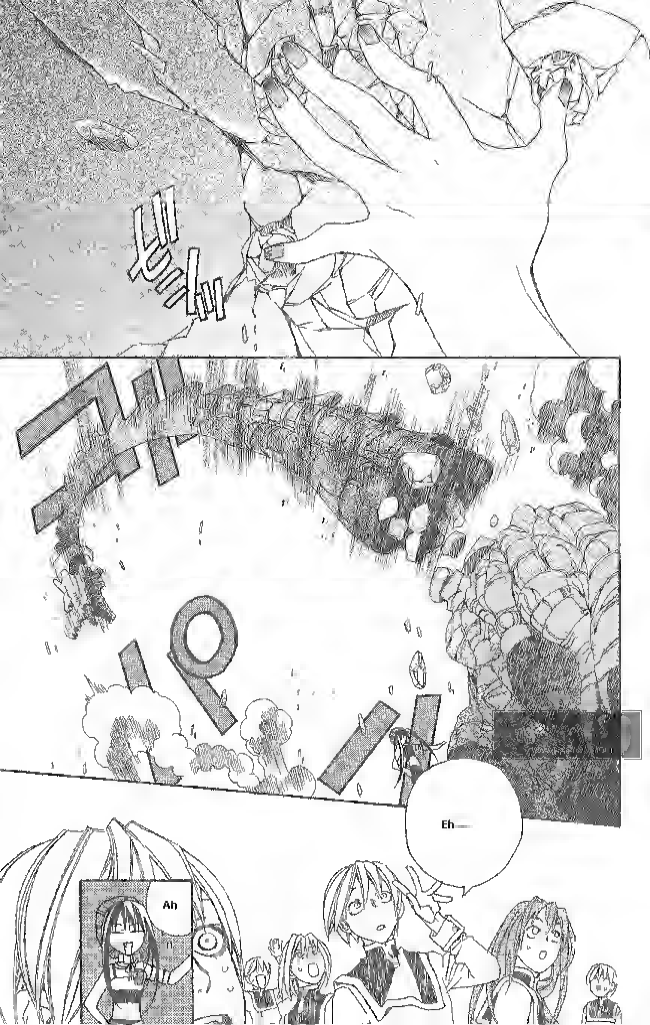
ゴゴゴ

are not effected.

Oh?
They gathered together and reshaped themselves into a dragon in order to boost their powers...
What a way to go
They certainly used every intelligence they had

What are we going to do about that ?
I've used all my mana ! Even if I do cast a barrier 3 meters in diameter is the best I can do now !
Why ask Angelica ?
Angelica do something!
You do something!
Do something Angelica !
Ekusa
What are they doing
ゴオオ！

I did tell it not to touch the hero ...
So...this is its doing...
Well it's a failure so I didn't expect it to listen to me well...
Even so ...
It keeps trying to climb on me...
It's getting on my nerve ...
You may be big.
But you aren't capable of doing anything else, do you ?
Hey! Little ones!


Eh—
Ah

ぎゃあああああ!!!
ズゴゴゴゴ
くらあ
I forgot
So
Eh...
Sira, what did you do ?!
It's going down ~

Wait !
わらわら
ぎゃ~!!
R.., run !
Wand !?
Forget it !!
What?!
There are wounded here....
Not wand !
Wounded !

Ahah!
Rakusyuri !
Angelica !
Yes !
だん！

Can they save them ?
Angelica !
They are out of energy also though
Still it is as if it doesn't bother them
Yes !

Iron shield I
They are too good

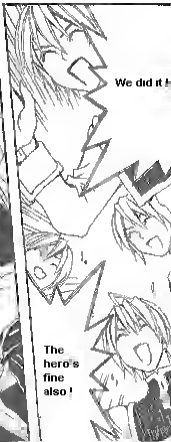
オオオオ

ヒュン

ふぅ〜
Phew..
That was a close call....

I told you it was 3 meters ! You should have been more caretul !
Angelica ! !

わぁぁぁぁぁ！


We did it !
The hero's fine also !

You guys should not have been destroyed so easily— Next time, try to make sure hardening your base first.
……ｗｗ
The hero is strong. Perhaps, he is the strongest human among other humans.
は

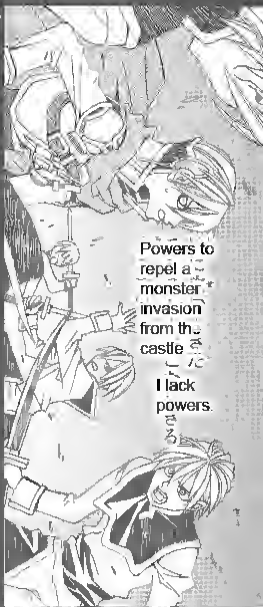
だが
At the same time,
同時に
He is one who also has probably the best companions
いい仲間を持っているんだな
I...
Had thought I must get through this alone.
Avoiding to be punished
No
に
This is an ordeal I have to overcome
で

そ
If not,
How
じゃなんの
Could I claim myself to be a hero !!
勇者の
かある!!
Not yet
だ…
Still
だ
A little more !!!
I was being pushed forward by a fact that I had not accomplished anything
More I desperately struggled
死で
もがけば
More I was being sucked into bottomless darkness
Such a sensation, I felt.
暗く
闇へと

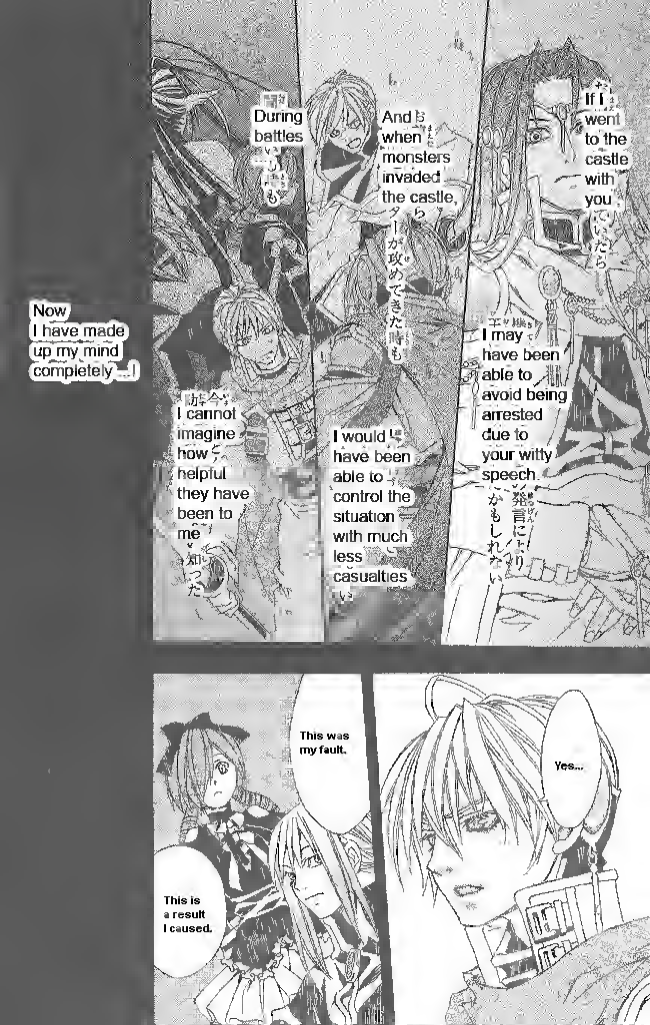
しまった…!!
Damn it!!
Rakusyuri!

Why...?
It's nothing.
Ekusa, are you alright ?
Why ...
Do you always ...
Your orders?
Your orders
Why do you always follow me like this ?

And I have already lost my position as a hero...



When we decided to become your companions, we were prepared to die
It was that you were not prepared to push us to death
As you said ... you were always prepared to die
た 悟らは を持って
But I was not prepared
For companions like yourselves...
And for myself ...も…


Now I have made up my mind completely...!
During battles
And when monsters invaded the castle,
If I went to the castle with you
I cannot imagine how helpful they have been to me
I would have been able to control the situation with much less casualties
I may have been able to avoid being arrested due to your witty speech
This was my fault.
This is a result I caused.
Yes...

I am going to defeat the demon lord
This sort ot incident will not happen again.

When such a moment comes I will not hesitate
And I will be prepared to die for the cause.

Are you prepared to fight the demon lord ?
Raku-syuri ...
This will not happen again.
Angelica ...
So, I ask you to continue fighting with me.
Ahah -
Yes.
Of course.
Gulp...
Keep these in mind.
Then
I've been telling you that from the beginning You jerk

Do not get killed.
No matter what
Do not kill either

あはは!
That's so you.
はは
Yes
Fine

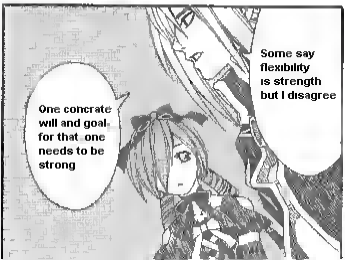
No, it's that... cause ...
You literally swore that you wouldn't go ...
Ah ...
I just recalled.
Yes...
You are too good of a person.
I kind of foresaw that you'd abandon us one day...

Your good personality is too dangerous

But I swore that I would not abandon you

But what I do know is that...

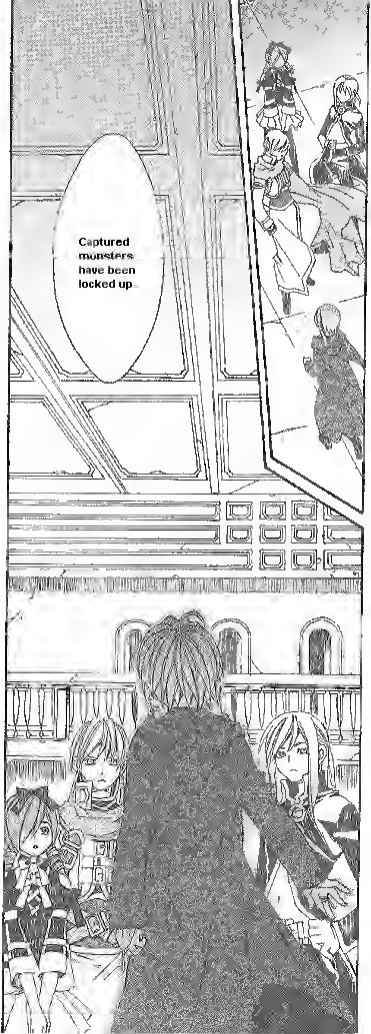
Angelica...I and others were attracted by such a quality ot yours
and they have gathered like here like now


Some say flexibility is strength but I disagree
One concrate will and goal for that one needs to be strong

Be strong, Ekusa.
Yes
Then no matter what we
Will follow you until the very end
Yes I swear

I will be strong
Not just my strength but my will and hope...
And I won't be behind you anymore
– So that I will not fall against ...
Whatever is going to happen in the future...

Hmmph good people they are...
Strong hero and strong companions~
...!
I can't help myself
私は
Stop liking you guys
だ
But one day I will be forced to destroy you all
Because I won't be able to keep the tact that
こいう
I am the demon lord secret forever
魔王
も
たから!!


Captured monsters have been locked up...
But before that, I must get rid of that failure first of all...
だってあの失敗作だけはじっくんとな…

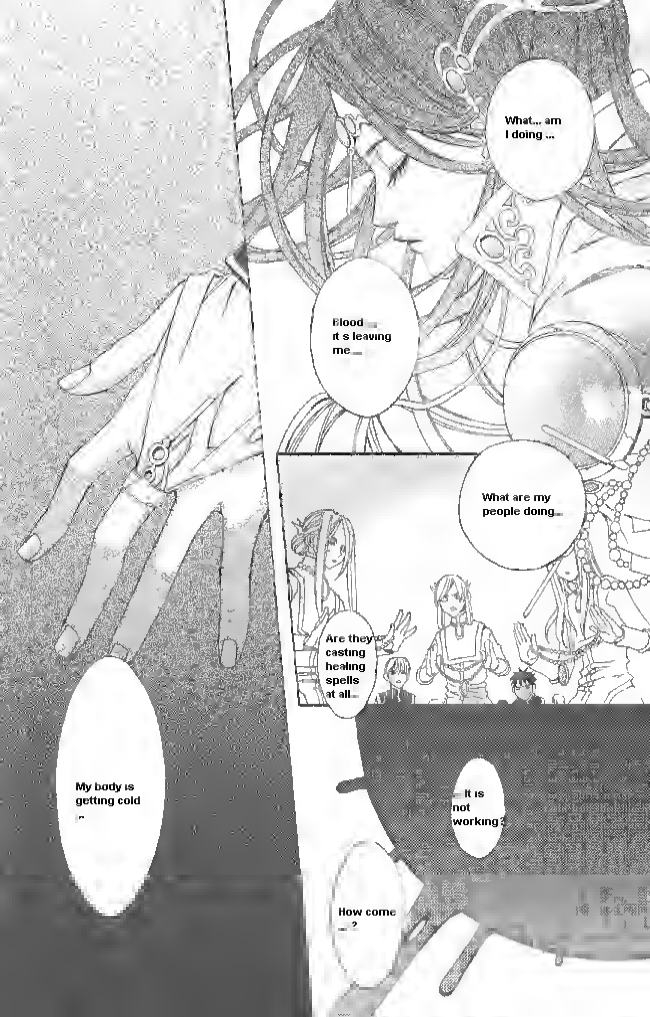
I suppose father can no longer overlook the hero's achievement
I am hoping that he will cancel your punishment...
ニヒ
ニヒ

Why is the healing magic ...
Not working at all ?!
Bleeding is not stopping !
Sire !
Sire !

Story 11 End of Life

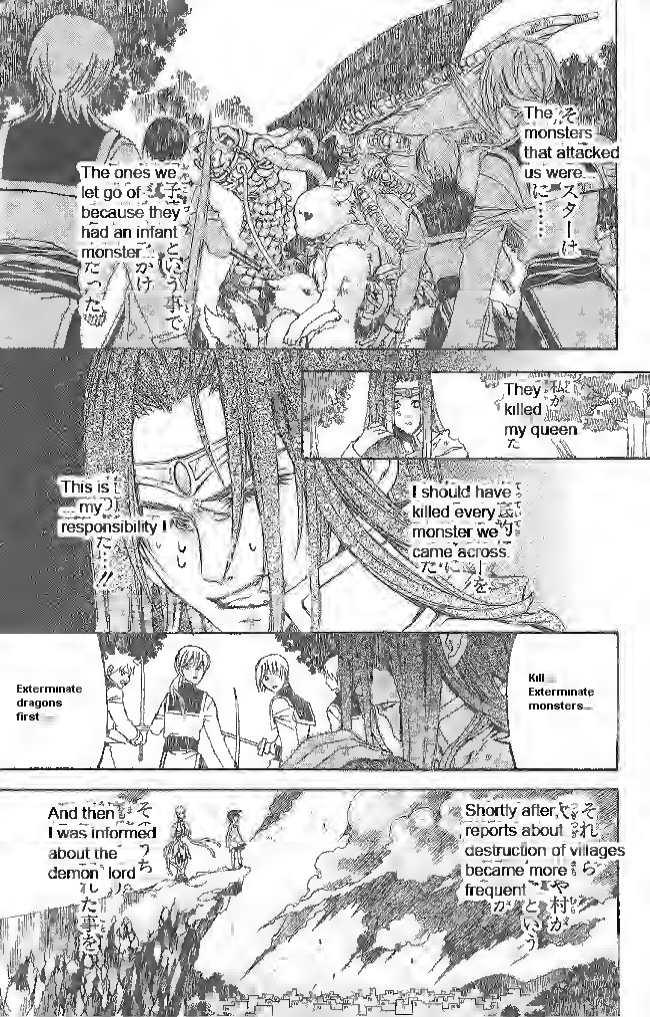
You are here! I am glad that you are alright !
Sire !
Prince!
Fon !
You know where he is, don't you ?
I am looking for father, but he is nowhere to be found !
!
.....
... What is it ?

What —
Did you say ?
The king is ..
He was attacked by a monster. He's critically wounded now.
That s —
What about healing ?!
Prince, please go to where the king is!
Currently, we see no other way to treat him.
Healing spells don't seem to work at all on him


What... am I doing ...
Blood ... it s leaving me...
What are my people doing...
Are they... casting healing spells at all...
My body is getting cold ...
It is not working?
How come ...?

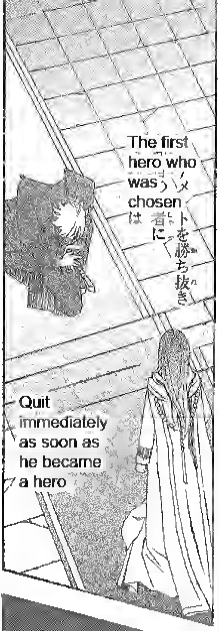
Even when I was becoming aware of my surroundings, the world was already being threatened by monsters
But monsters progressively became more violent each year
No one seemed to know when and how it started
Monsters continued to threaten the world even after I took the throne
And
Then

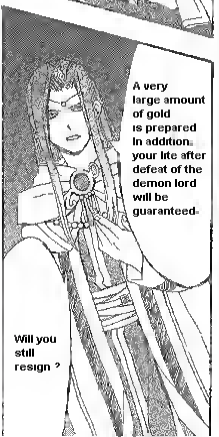
幸せを手に入れた
I acquired happiness
A beautiful queen and a cute son
美しい王妃と息子
But the queen did not
But it only lasted for a short while...
Juno and I survived
One day, our carriage was attacked by monsters
ある日、馬車がモンスターに襲われた


The monsters that attacked us were...
スターは
The ones we let go of because they had an infant monster
子供がいるという事で逃がした
They killed my queen
私の女王を
This is my responsibility!!
I should have killed every monster we came across
Exterminate dragons first
Kill Exterminate monsters...
Shortly after, reports about destruction of villages became more frequent
それから村が
And then I was informed about the demon lord
その後魔王の事を

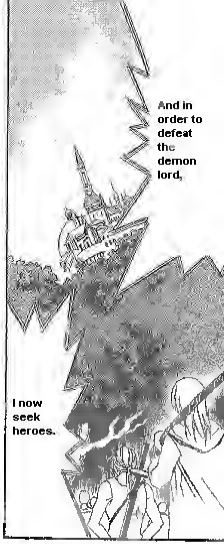
奴らは人間を滅ぼそうとしているのだ
It seemed as if it was trying to exterminate humans
Monsters probably have their reasons for doing so
Also at the same time,
We, humans,
Have to survive and live on as who we are
In order for us humans,
To live peacefully, threats from monsters must be gone
In other words, monsters must be removed from this world

When monsters are killed, humans become happy
When humans are killed, monsters become happy
We have no other choice but live by taking away each other's happiness
If so then, I as a king of humans, must get rid of monsters That is my duty of a king
In order to get rid of monsters
The demon lord must be gone.


The first hero who was chosen は
Quit immediately as soon as he became a hero


A very large amount of gold is prepared In addition, your life after defeat of the demon lord will be guaranteed.
Will you still resign ?

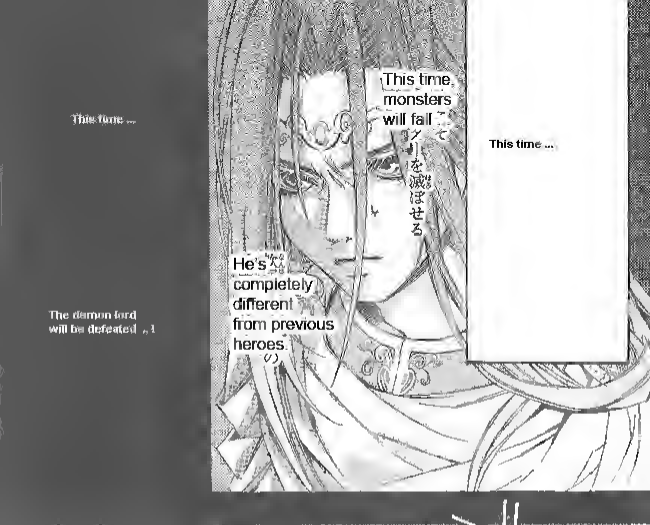
A hero who will defeat the demon lord !


And in order to defeat the demon lord,
I now seek heroes.

Nor personality or roof will matter
As long as you are strong enough to defeat the demon lord !

Sire my apologies however I will not feel happiness from dong such deeds you ask for.
I do not have such deferminations you ask I quit therefore.
But none ot them managed to defeat the demon lord.
Second third and fourth heroes were chosen
Some ran away and were executed

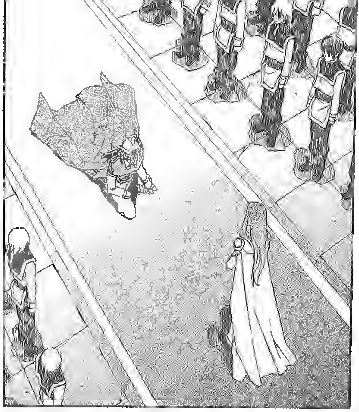
And the 5th hero
Ekusa
His strength was on a different level
Not only was he strong,
He was clearly different from previous ones
Juno
He was born with
Exceptional quality of perception to see true image of others
Father ! He will defeat the demon lord ! He can change the world!
Juno did seem to like him very much
His personality was perfect to be a hero

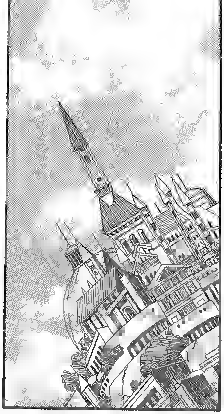

This time ...
The demon lord will be defeated ,, !
This time, monsters will fail
He's completely different from previous heroes.
This time ...

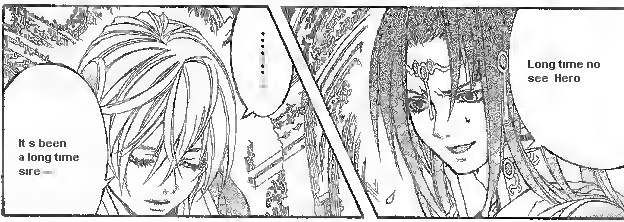
However, my mortal body started to suffer from an illness and was no longer hopeful for recovery.
How much time do I have left ?

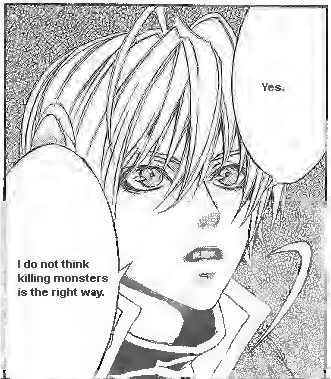
You will tell no one about this
But ...
Not much
Please don't push yourself
I have tasks to accomplish
I do not have time to lay down
I do not care for my life anymore
Monsters must be killed They must be
Monsters must be exterminated quickly

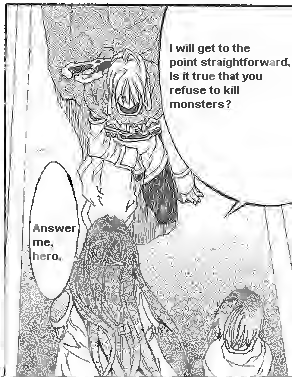
What?!
The hero has not been killing mosnters ?!
But -
Are you certain?
It could be a false rumor !
Find out the truth !
I do not have time
時間はない
I can no longer just sit and wait idly
許さを
にはいかない






It s been a long time sire
.....
Long time no see Hero


I do not think killing monsters is the right way.
Yes.


I will get to the point straightforward, Is it true that you refuse to kill monsters?
Answer me, hero.

…ああ
What have I been working for?
いったのだ?
Was it to exterminate monsters?
Was it to
Bring peace to the society of humans?!
But

That's enough.
I don't need to listen to your excuses.
The hero refused to kill monsters
スタンモンスターを
どういうこと
I did not believe such a rumor
Is he
Just like previous heroes
今までの勇者どもと
You will remain quiet ! Guards! Seize him !
What kind of excuses is he trying to come up with ?
わけをしようというのだ？
No, ple...

Yes, it was a result of showing mercy on monsters...

とに情けをかけた私の非。

Hero,

魔王を

Betrayers

that refused to fight the demon lord !!!

気な

It would have not happened if you killed monsters

It happened because you let them go.
It was a result I let it happen
あまを
果だ

Are you saying you can and will convince every monster in the world ?
What else would I need to hear ?
I cannot forgive a fact that I am weak
You will be executed tomorrow

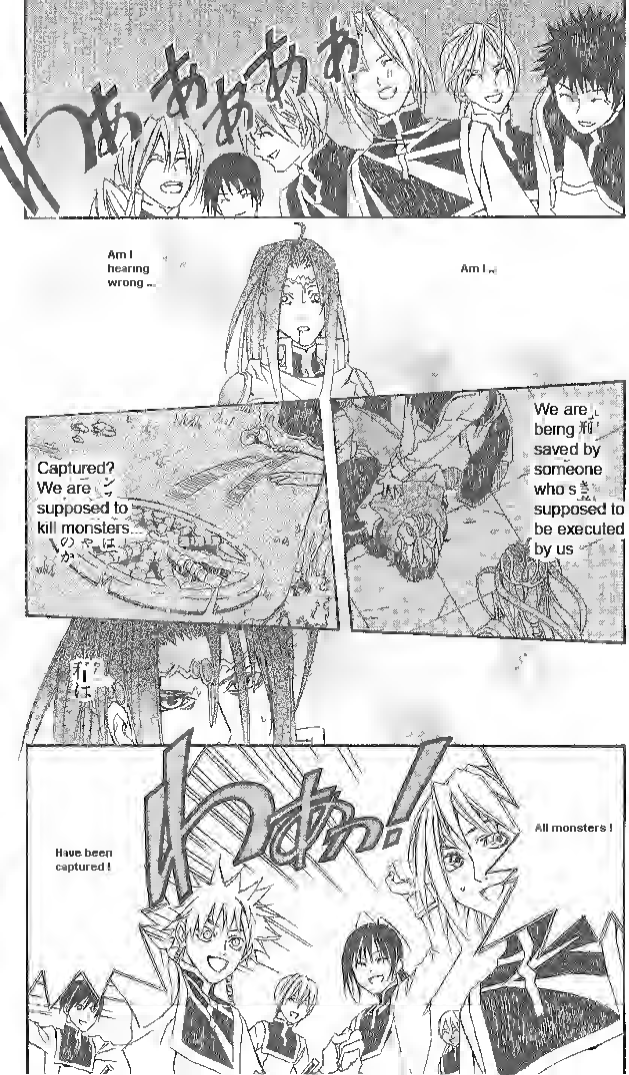
What is this ?!
Monster!!?
Did he enter the castle after disguising itself as a human ?!
They let them just invade the castle like this ...
You call yourself guards ?!
Useless people ...

Report
Ah
We are losing. It will be a matter of time before they overrun this castle.
Overrun this castle ?!
Do some thing !
We are barely managing to secure here but...
It will also be only a matter of time before they get here
Eliminate monsters from this castle no matter what.
www.janmes.com

This is the end
Do not... give up!
Think!
Useless!!
Just what I have been working for all this time?
Some are even committing suicide now
So, the glory of this castle ends today..
ああ…

何
What
?!
たと…!?
The hero is fighting.
ばたばた
It seems the prince has released him
He let out a criminal who is supposed to be executed
?!
!?

What is it now...
Sire, the castle might be saved.
What !!
The hero is capturing monsters !
Hero s companions arrived !

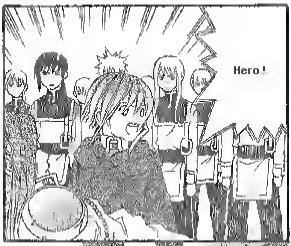

あああああ
Am I hearing wrong ...
Am I ...
Captured? We are supposed to kill monsters...
We are being saved by someone who's supposed to be executed by us
Have been captured !
All monsters !

わあああ!
We are victorious !
What is going on
何なんだ
私は……

Father ...

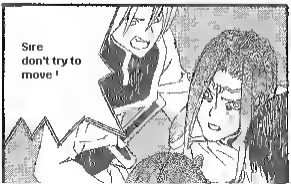
……!

……"


Hero !

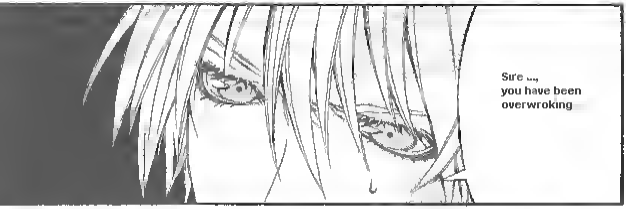
Hero ——?

Did you
say
Hero ?!
ばっ

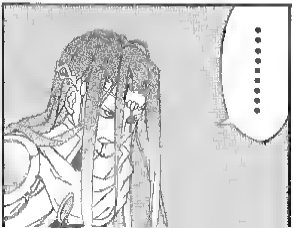

Sire
don't try to
move !

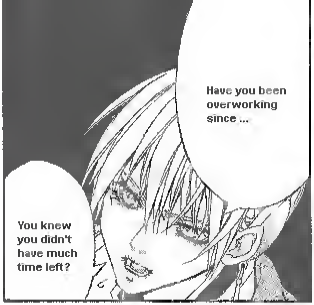
Juno ...

His bleeding is not stopping ...
!


Sire ...,
you have been overwroking

Hero...


.....


Have you been overworking since ...
You knew you didn't have much time left ?

Magic can only heal so much.
Your body is rejecting the healing spells since it is incapable of healing.

Sire! Is this true ?

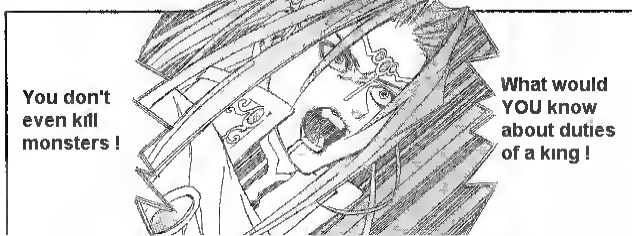
He doesn't have much time ? But no one said.....
What ?!

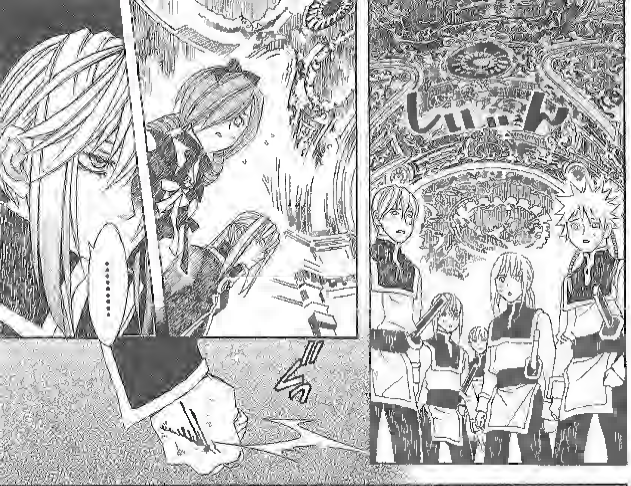
.....
///

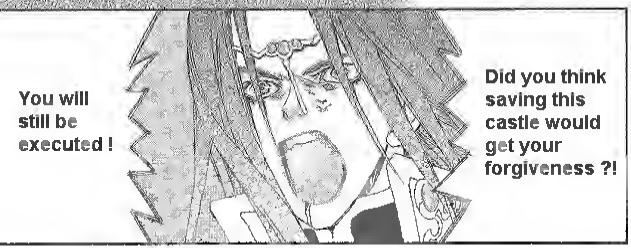
Yes.
.....

What would you know ...

Why were you reducing your lifespan—


You don't even kill monsters !
What would YOU know about duties of a king !

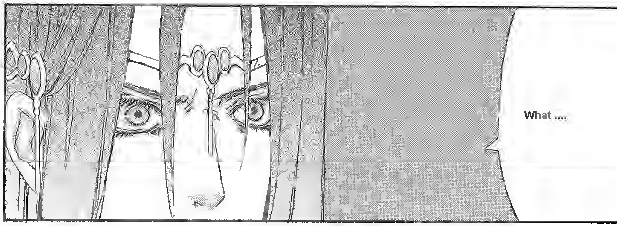

……
しゅ…ん

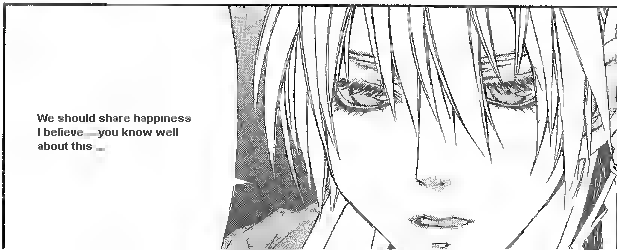

You will still be executed !
Did you think saving this castle would get your forgiveness ?!

I understand you.
But hold it. He is a king.
が
ガ

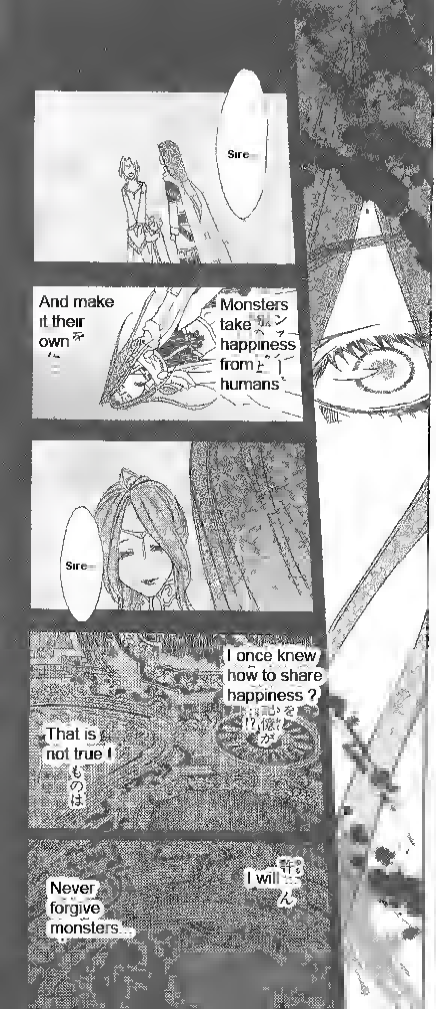
ザッ

・・・・・・・
Sire, I am sorry to say this, but ...
I do not believe that we have to take each other's happiness.


What ....


We should share happiness I believe ... you know well about this ...

.....
Such dreamy words ...
Do you think such an ideal briet will get you through
Such ....
Sire !


Sire
And make it their own
Monsters take happiness from humans
Sire
I once knew how to share happiness ?
That is not true !
I will
Never forgive monsters
Sire !
Sire—!

Sire...
!
What ...
Is this ?

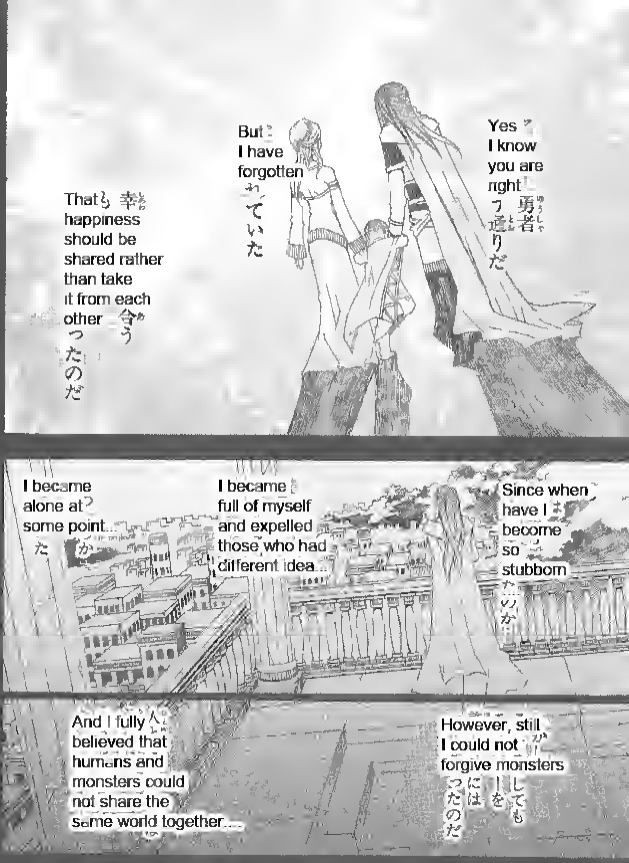
My queen

My old memroies?
This is

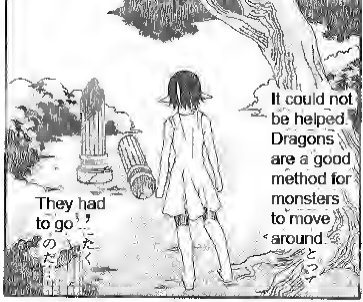
I wonder if I will be able to support you as a queen

I am certain that you will be able to
Will you be my bride ?

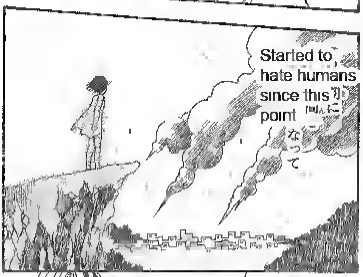
Aww, come on, leave it alone...
Ahah... yes...
But monsters took my happiness away from me...
Happiness... I was indeed happy during this time.
My wife and Juno gave me happiness
And they were supporting me from my back
My mind was very soft and live at the moment.
I wanted to protect my family as well as my people
Is this what you were taking about, Hero?
I believe happiness should be shared.

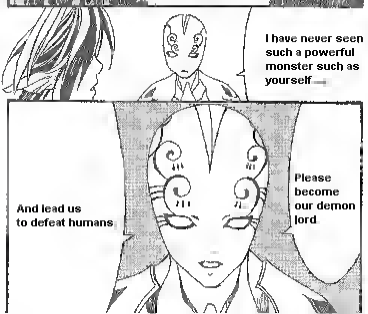

That happiness should be shared rather than take it from each other 幸も 奪い合うったのだ
But I have forgotten 忘れていた
Yes I know you are right 勇者よ 貴方の言う通りだ
I became alone at some point... 孤独になっていた
I became full of myself and expelled those who had different idea... 自分が正しいと思い込み 異なる考えの者を排除していた
Since when have I become so stubborn 何時からこんなに頑なになったのか
And I fully believed that humans and monsters could not share the same world together... 人と魔物は共存できないと信じていた
However, still I could not forgive monsters 私にはそれでも魔物を許すことはできなかったのだ
I believed that being weak would bring total annihilation...

and now I am in air—?
It seems I entered someone else's memories
On back of a ラ dragon ンの
Is she going to see the dragon again today
She seems to like this dragon very much
Yes I can understand you


They had to go
It could not be helped. Dragons are a good method for monsters to move around

And this child


Started to hate humans since this point


I have never seen such a powerful monster such as yourself
Please become our demon lord
And lead us to defeat humans

Ahah, right, I did order my men to hunt down dragons
I see that her favorite dragon was also hunted down by humans

This is the demon lord!?!
Trying to protect humans from monsters
Exterminate dragons first.
I was just
What is going on ?!
my unfortunate incident ...
I thought that my weakness has brought
It was me who made the drmon lord appear ?!
Have I been wrong all this time ?!

憎しみ
Hatred
憎しみを呼ぶだけなのか
Brought even more hatred
Ah, ah, I see
Even it has happened to the hero
But the hero
Unlike me and the demon lord
Chose to walk on a path to share happiness?

I thought that my weakenss caused everything to happen
So, I pushed myself harder and harder
Because I believed that it was the only way to survive
But
In the end, my actions caused the demon lord to appear
Happiness should be shared instead of taking it from each other
Sharing is the way for more stable future
If so then what am I supposed to do now
.....
Hero...
Yes

Yes.
Are you trying to prove that happiness should be shared ?
... Yes.
Even so ?
It will be ... very hard to accomplish in this world ...
It will come
I am not even sure it it will be possible
For my entire life I wanted peace but I could not accomplish it
Everyone s hope will make the way to the future including your hope
Everyone wants peace so it will come

If it weren't you, even more of us would have been killed.
I ... might have not been here today if it weren't you.
My method was not wrong ... ?
I will do my duties
I can no longer step back or run or give up
I see
I will defeat the demon lord I will not forgive myself it I don't
Is that so—
I wasn't completely wrong, he says...
Father !
Just listen.
I want to have few words with you before I die
Juno,
Yes.

After I die, call a man named Rene and make him your advisor.
He is a very resourceful man, but he was expelled due to my stubbornness.
He will come back when he knows I am dead ....
Yes
And I will leave the hero s case to you
Even the locked up monsters
Tell him that I am sorry.
He is also very stubborn though...
You mean...
If you don't think they should be executed then you can release them. I am saying

I had always thought that you were just a child...
I heard the report that you commanded the guards
Father ....
.....
Hero, I thank you. Please forgive me for the harsh treatment...
Although it was opposite ot my will....
You were ultimately correct as a king.
You managed to protect the castle
Little king...
I will leave the future to you...

Father !
Ahah ..., these will open the way to the future
And they will face many battles...
I no longer have a reason to hold onto my life anymore
Father !

Sire !
Father !
Father !
Sire !
.....
.....
.....
.....
..... That is .....!!!

The demon lord !!
Why is the demon lord here
なぜ所に…
My voice is muted !
Oh
You figured out what I am?

Anyway,
Why am I here?
I don't know how you figure out.
Isn't that obvious.
A voice is echoing in my head !!
I pretended to be a weak monster and told him that I liked him.
He trusted every word I told him.
I am traveling with the hero
And now I am just waiting for my chance to strike him.
がっ
What ?!
I must inform them !
The demon lord is right here ! Kill her !
Father ?!

If you hadn't figured out I would have let you die in peace...
I will not let you tell anyone....
No...you won't speak
Did you become the demon lord after your favorite dragon was hunted down ?
Did...
I must distract her....
You must have liked it very much.
.....
The grip became weaker....

What ?!
I would have eventually become the demon lord regardless.
You think I became the demon lord because a dragon was killed ?
Don't make me laugh.
This world knows only how to take happiness away from others.
Anyone living in such a world will eventually become mad sooner or later
And at one point they will start to think that they want to show others darkness they face.
You knew ... ?!
It wasn't beacuse your order as a king.
Even if the dragon wasn't hunted down, I would have become the demon lord.
It was that I had the powers to make it happen.

I am the demon lord. I do not know what love and care are.
I see that you are trying to weaken me mentally, but that will not work.
But I am unlike the hero.
Even in such a crazed world, some sane person like the hero does appear from time to time...
Happiness should be shared.
Now, die !
Father!
Father!
Father!
Father!
Father!

Ahah...
Don't die !
Please,
don't die!
Hero ...!

What is happening to the demon lord?
What...?
The grip has gotten weaker...

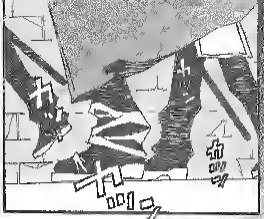
These are the demon lord's memories ?
……魔王の記憶……？

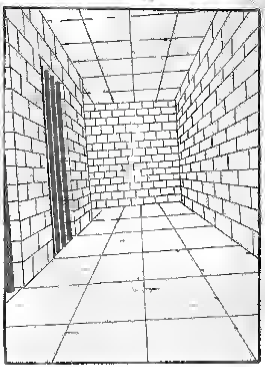
She seems almost exactly like an average human being
This is the demon lord ...?
I do not know what love and care are
I am the demon lord
Anyone in such a world would go mad.
Don't know? No, she was once really full of love and care ...
Even the demon lord ...
Yes, I was mad
It's an endless repeating circle of madness ...
Humans and monsters as well ...

Without loving and caring emotions...
There is no one...
一つの
たくさん
なし
A world that continues giving birth to endless sadness...
More happiness they lost, further they became away from sanity...
It just keeps going on and on...
And they struggle not to lose any more by killing each other and abandoning their emotions...
いじょう
うしなう
ころし
すてて
Eventually, they become hopeless...
ことは
なっていった...
And like that, everyone has become crazed....

そ
か……
I see…
So she has fallen in love with the hero か……
I knew how to share happiness at that time を
Just like how I loved my queen が うに……
The demon lord has started loving the hero って……
Will she learn how to share eventually ？？
She may still feel very awkward about it still がら……
She may not have realized that she is already sharing it with the hero ろ と

Sire!
Sire!
Yes, if the demon lord learns how to share happiness
This world may change finally
The new future lies before those who know how to share happiness
Father





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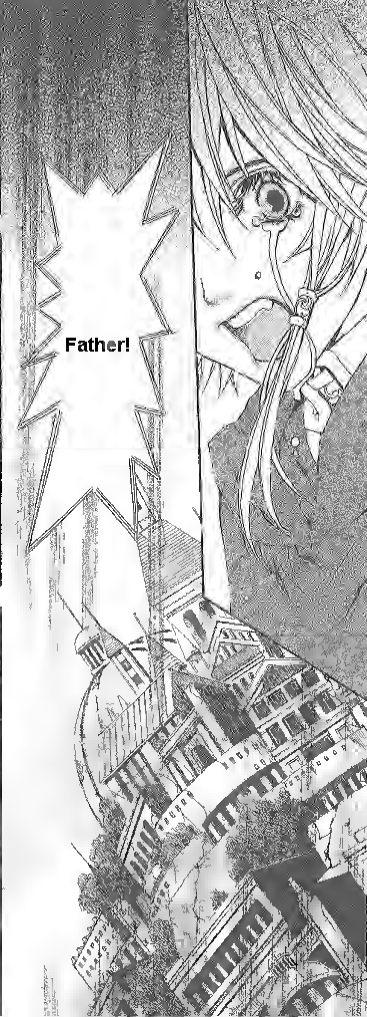
……


Father!

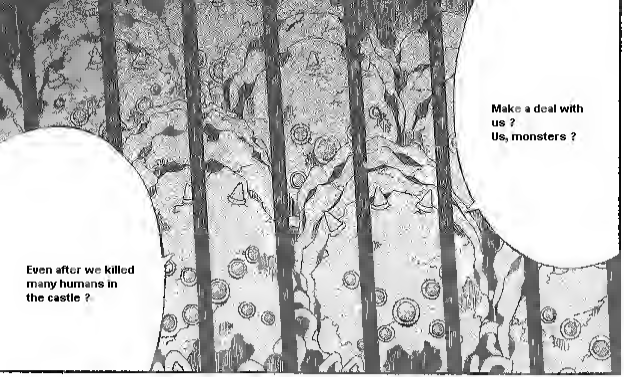
Appear
Seal !
!!
Looks like we made a mistake...
Glad that we didn't kill them all
I am not !
Get me out of here!
Sire what to do now?
May I remind you that these are the cause of the king's demise...
The cause of father's death ...

I am a king now
I must make a king's decision
その…だ…
Should we execute them ?
No ..
I would like to make a deal with you
さ…

Sire, what to do now ?
May I remind you that these are the cause of the king s demise?
Should we execute them ?
The casue of father s death
.....
.....
No ...
I would like to make a deal with you.

* Scan went wrong with the last and this page. *

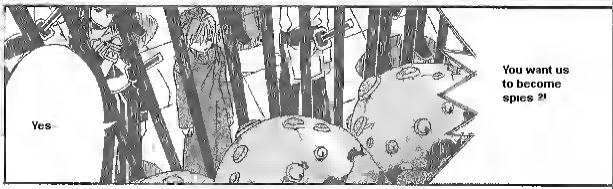
Story 12 Mirage

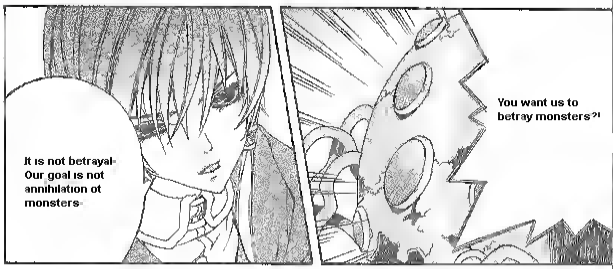

Make a deal with us ?
Us, monsters ?
Even after we killed many humans in the castle ?

.....
We managed to capture you in such a crisis
It'd be waste of our efforts if we simply kill you now
What are you going to do to us ?

.....
I envy your shape-changing ability.

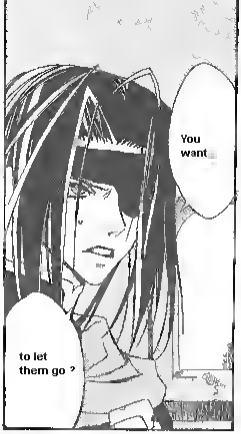
Join us.
!?


You want us to become spies ?!
Yes-

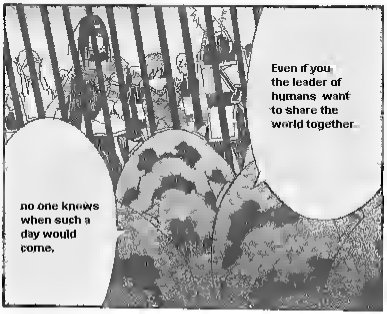

You want us to betray monsters ?!
It is not betrayal- Our goal is not annihilation of monsters-

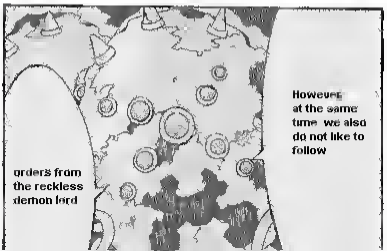
Our goal is to share this world with monsters.
if we continue to have this kind of conflicts, there is great uncertainty when peace will come

I want to find a way to share this world together
Will you help us?

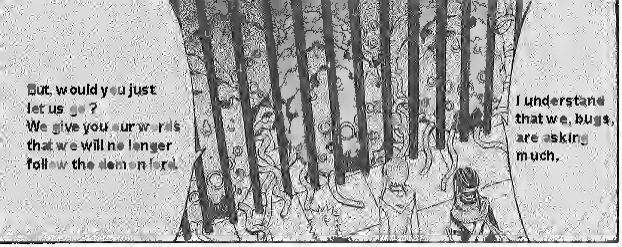

You want
to let them go ?

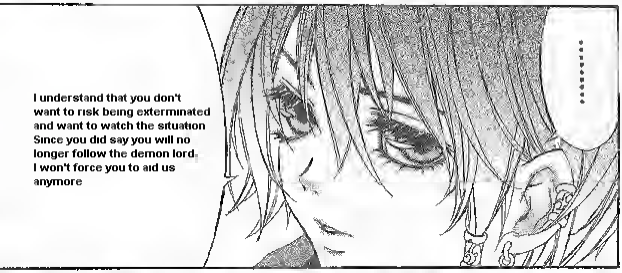
.....
Sir

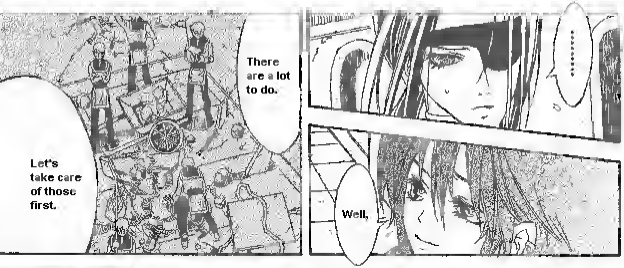

Even if you the leader of humans want to share the world together
no one knows when such a day would come,

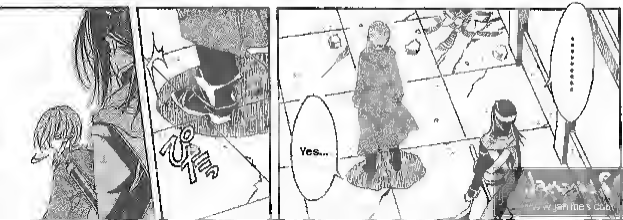

However at the same time we also do not like to follow
orders from the reckless demon lord

カッ
カッ


But, would you just let us go?
We give you our words that we will no longer follow the demon lord.
I understand that we, bugs, are asking much.


I understand that you don't want to risk being exterminated and want to watch the situation
Since you did say you will no longer follow the demon lord, I won't force you to aid us anymore
.....


There are a lot to do.
Let's take care of those first.
.....
Well,


.....
Yes...

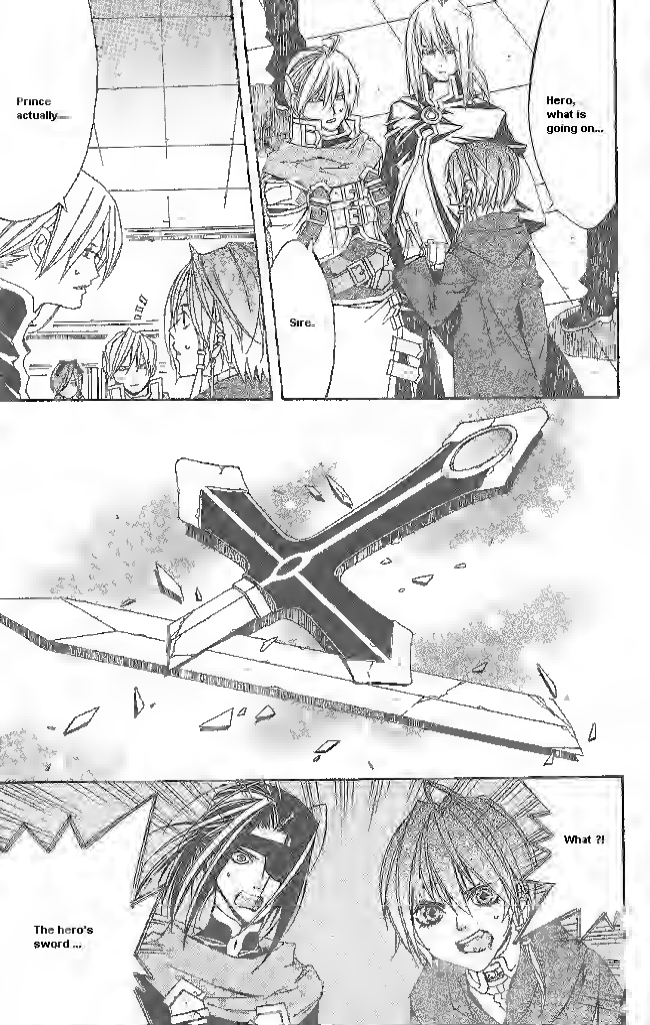
Hero I am sorry that I made you wait
Pardon? Sire, what are you tal

!?

.....

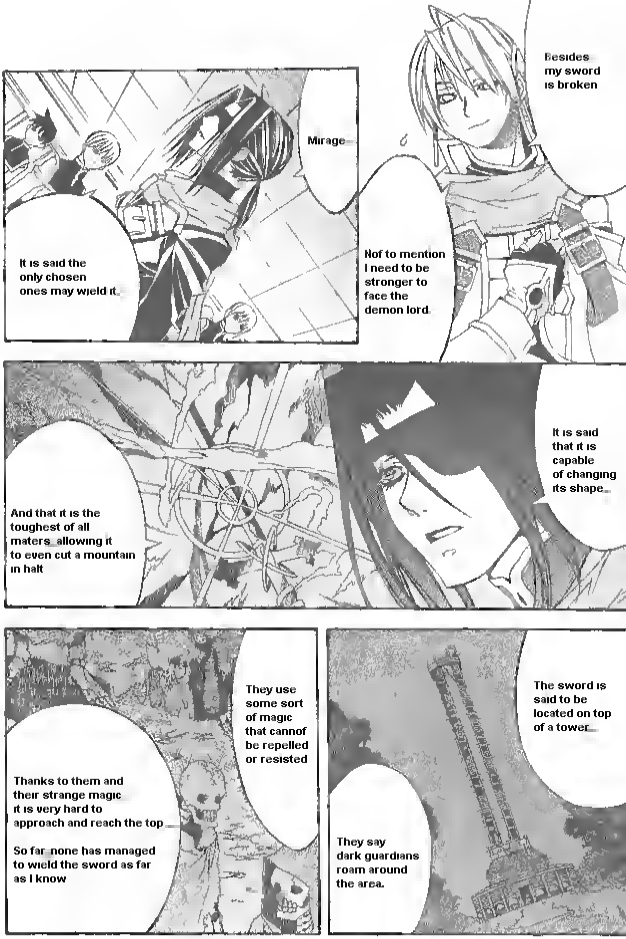
What s going on?
.....

Do not worry.
They will come back.


Prince actually...
DEO
Sire.
Hero, what is going on...
What ?!
The hero's sword ...

What have they done
When the king arrested you, guards who thought that the sword was no longer needed destroyed it
Ekusa—
What now Ekusa?
Well, that s it. I guess.
It must have been fate
!!?

Ah the legendary sword ? It shouldn't take too long to get some updated information on its location
Are you planning to aquire it ?
Prince... I would like to know exact location of the legendary sword..Mirage
But I did not go for it since I did not think I was worthy and qualified.
I've had the intention for some time.
I think I will be able to wield the sword
But now,


Besides my sword is broken
Mirage...
It is said the only chosen ones may wield it.
Nof to mention I need to be stronger to face the demon lord.
It is said that it is capable of changing its shape...
And that it is the toughest of all maters, allowing it to even cut a mountain in half
They use some sort of magic that cannof be repelled or resisted
Thanks to them and their strange magic it is very hard to approach and reach the top...
So far none has managed to wield the sword as far as I know
The sword is said to be located on top of a tower...
They say dark guardians roam around the area.

Ekusa...
Ekusa...
Will you still go ?
Yes I will still go
You've been fighting without rest for a while. I can't let you get into battles again.
I will go alone.
Ekusa, I will go with you.
Me, too ...
Look who's talking !
You haven't had any decent rest, either !

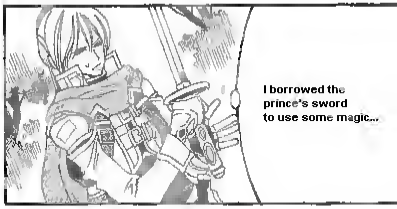
This is my ordeal.
Let me go alone.
!!!
Are you going to be okay?
ああ
Ekusa
It could be dangerous if you go alone but still if you insist
But...

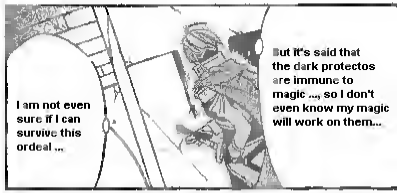
I will believe you and wait for you then
That is also one of duties as comrades
Okay, Angelica will wait too
.....
Thanks.
By the way, Sira...
?
She wasn't paying attention → since the conversation sounded complicated.

So ...
This is the tower where the mirage sword is said to be at ---

さあ、
Now let's go

On top of this tower
The sword should be there...!


I borrowed the prince's sword to use some magic...


I am not even sure if I can survive this ordeal ...
But it's said that the dark protectos are immune to magic ..., so I don't even know my magic will work on them...

I must become stronger to make a better use of my companions
No, this is a good chance to test my strength

Nya ~ !
I wanted to tag along.
But I haven't seen you for a while
Because she wasn't listening at all.
I said I wanted to come alone! Why didn't you listen to me !
Nya ha ~ ♥
I followed you.
Sssss - sssira ?! How did you get here ?!
N ...
Go back!
No !
Go back!
Are these the dark guardians?

うわあああ!!!

Too late now!

We run to the top!

Yahoo!

Don't "Yahoo"!

Alright! To the top!

Okay!

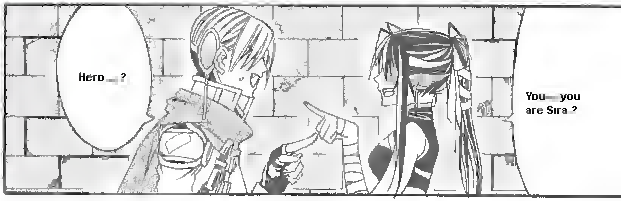
Stairs!

Guardians ... are they different from monsters ? Are they undread ? There are so many of them
Anyway, they are slow. If we keep running, we should be able to reach the top without a problem ...
ちら。
Tired ~
I don't think I can walk anymore.
Already ?!
That is if our stamina can hold up ....
You told me not to kill living beings
Are those even alive ?
Eh.....
No
You always make such a statement
Hero, let s just smash them all.
I didn't! I was just thinking ! They are beings !
Don't ignore me !
Even you don't know what they are !
Eh
Are those living beings ?

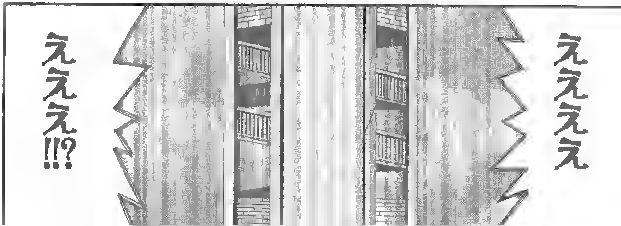
Are you alright, Sira ?
It hurts ....
My legs were crossed.
Ah -
They are casting something.
!
Hero...
Can you stand up ?
Shield !
Magic ?!

It simply went through ?!

Nya ~
That hurts~
Damn it, that was a direct hit.
Are you alright, Sira ?!


Hero ... ?
You—you are Sira ?

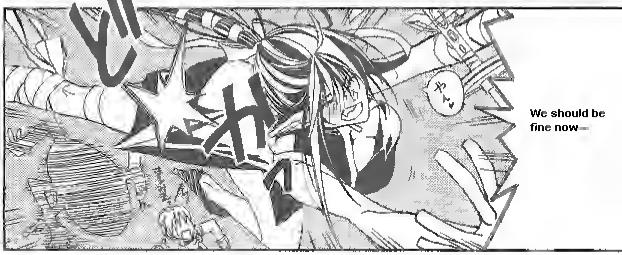
ぢー"
I am Sira ?
I am hero
.....
.....

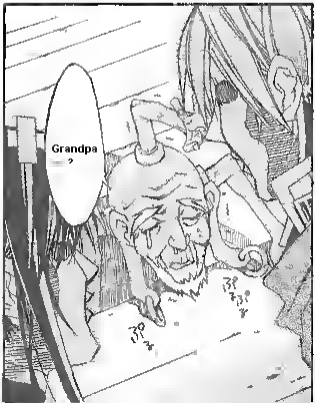

えええ
えええ!!?

What are we going to do now ?!
That was the spell ?! It exchanges souls ?!
Well ...
So weird to see myself speak
This isn't even a scary spell Maybe this prevents one to take the sword ?
Why did they cast something like this ? What were they thinking?
Nya ! !
Let s run for now !
It is quite scary to think that I may have to live like this forever...
Or are there something more scarier?

Okay! We are losing them!
!

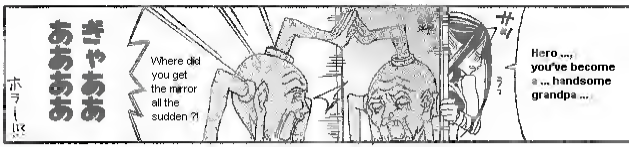
Ugh...

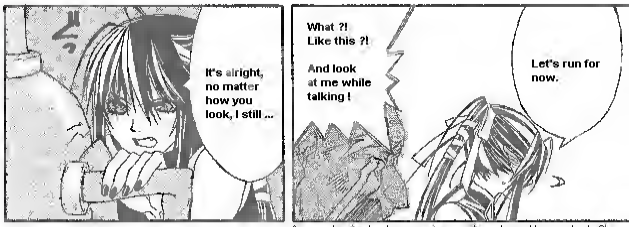

We should be fine now—


Grandpa—?

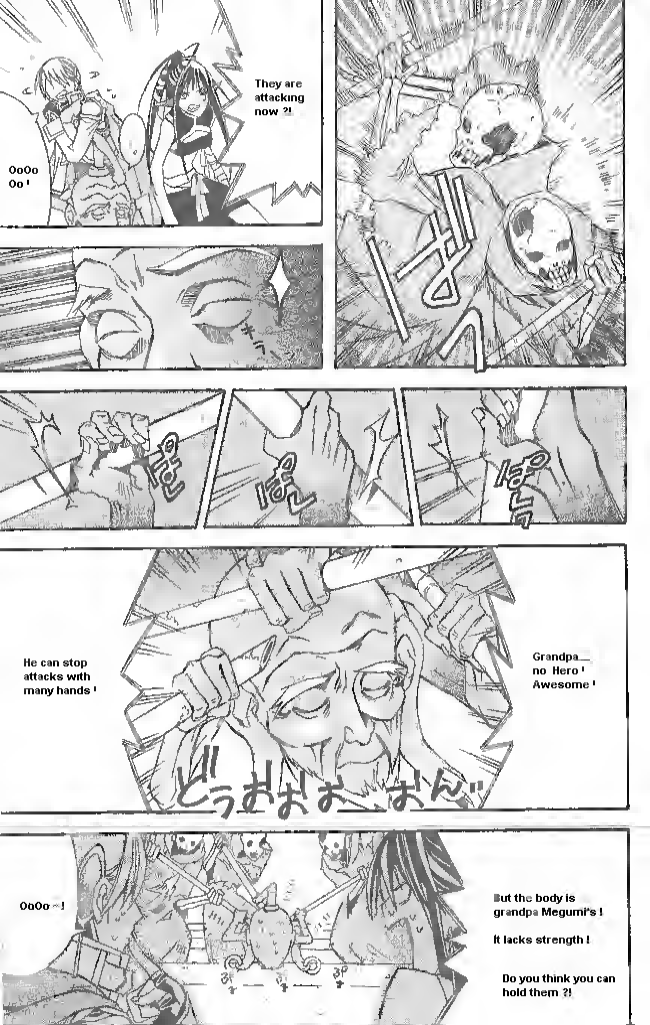
Are you okay, hero?
Damn it I can't believe I moaned like that
Eeeeek!
Something was on ground...

How in the world did you get here ?!
Grandpa Megumi ?!
And they are casting!
They are here!
Oo
We can not get hit by the spell now !
No !

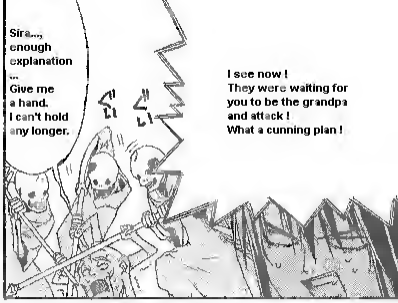


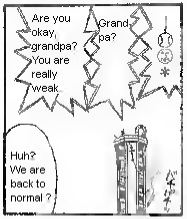


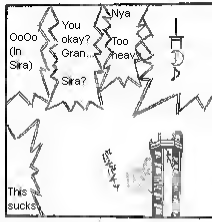
Are you turning back on me since you've returned to your body ?!


They are attacking now ?!
OoOo Oo !
ばん
ばん
ばん
He can stop attacks with many hands !
Grandpa... no Hero ! Awesome !
どうおおぉぉぉん
OoOo ~ !
But the body is grandpa Megumi's !
It lacks strength !
Do you think you can hold them ?!

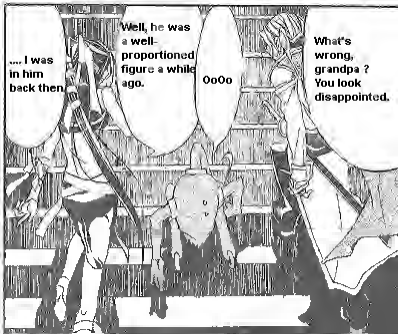
There s a light !


Sira..., enough explanation ... Give me a hand. I can't hold any longer.
I see now ! They were waiting for you to be the grandpa and attack ! What a cunning plan !


Are you okay, grandpa? You are really weak.
Grand pa?
Huh? We are back to normal ?


OoOo (In Sira)
You okay? Gran... Sira?
Nya
Too heavy
This sucks

Agreed, nya !
Let's run like hell before they cast another spell !
Woah ! We are back to normal !


.... I was in him back then.
Well, he was a well-proportioned figure a while ago.
OoOo
What's wrong, grandpa ? You look disappointed.

This is the top ?!
ドーン
Where is the sword?
I don't see one
H hero ?
!

They are here !
Huh? I still don't see it.
This is it ...
What to do now ?
ヴォオオオオオ
キイン
I see — No disturbance while one s taking the sword huh
The door is shut ?
バタン!

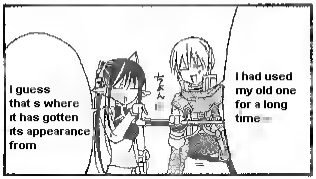
Water is gathering in air ...
As well as soils...
And "light" ...
Even wind—!

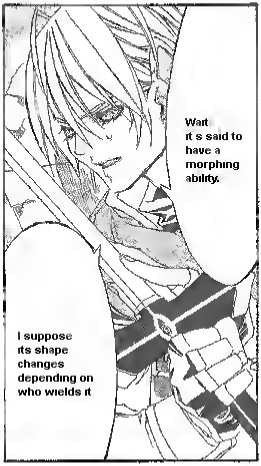
How nice ....
It's gathering to form a sword ?
Qualification...
Am I going to run away from such an excuse again ?
I cannot take it yet
Don't back off
So that I won't experience another sad event
Because I am not qualified ?
And so that I can save more people

仲間
Companions
信頼
and their trust
裏切らない為に
I do not want to disappoint them
これ以上
もう
I will not step backwards anymore
下がらない
オオオオ

That is...
This is my qualification !
The legendary sword, Mirage...
Huh ?

It looks...
exactly the same as the old one !

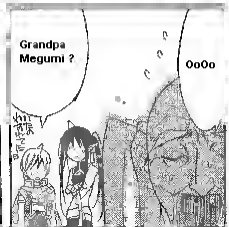

I had used my old one for a long time...
I guess that s where it has gotten its appearance from


Wait it s said to have a morphing ability.
I suppose its shape changes depending on who wields it

But will I be even able to fight with it
It looks like it cannot even cut a paper

By the way, the sword doesn't seem be sharp at all
Hm
Did it even take on my desire for not wanting to kill living beings ?

Ah ? The door's open again !


Grandpa Megumi ?
OoOo

Huh?
Nothing happened ?
It blocked a spell that I could not block without it
This sword is !!!
If so !!!

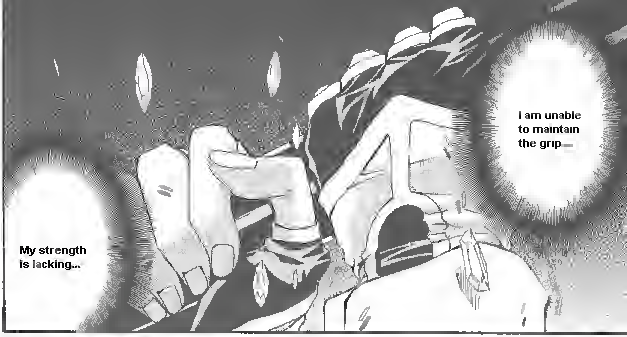
We have nowhere to run hero!
Yes, there is...
Another way.
Nu nu?..
What—?
Don't tell me—
This is a good chance to test the legend that this sword is tougher than any materials.

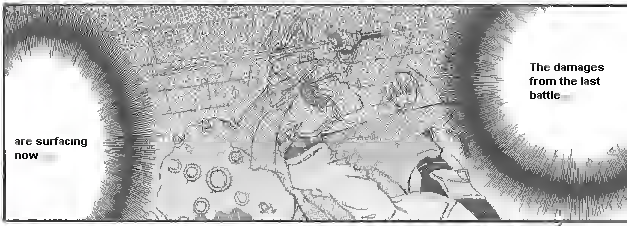
I am counting on you, hero
No other way then...
Let's go, Sira!
Oo0oOo! (Wait!)
Let's goooooooo!
Oo...
ゴゴゴ..
えええええええ!!!

Ignored.
Saddened in a way.
Ooooo
Sira ! Grab me !
Okay !

Ha -

ああああ
Stoppp !


I am unable to maintain the grip...
My strength is lacking...

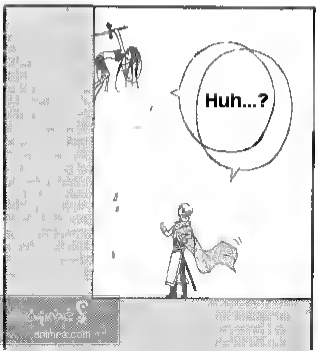

The damages from the last battle...
are surfacing now...

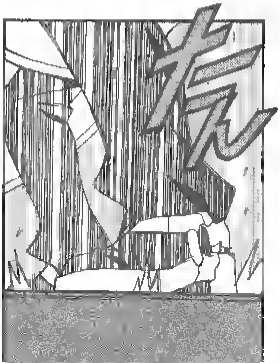
Ah....!
KAKI

H...
Hero !

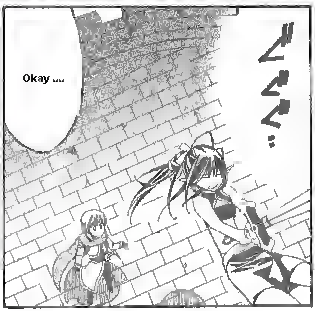
Hero !
You mustn't die !

終わりだ……
This is the end ……

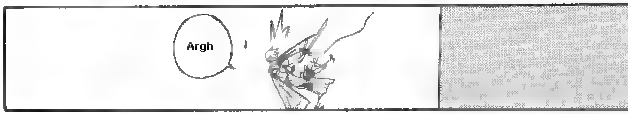

Huh...?

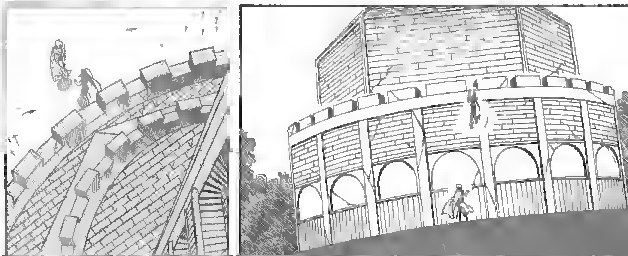

ん

あはははは はははっ
Here
We are already at the bottom...
W...what...

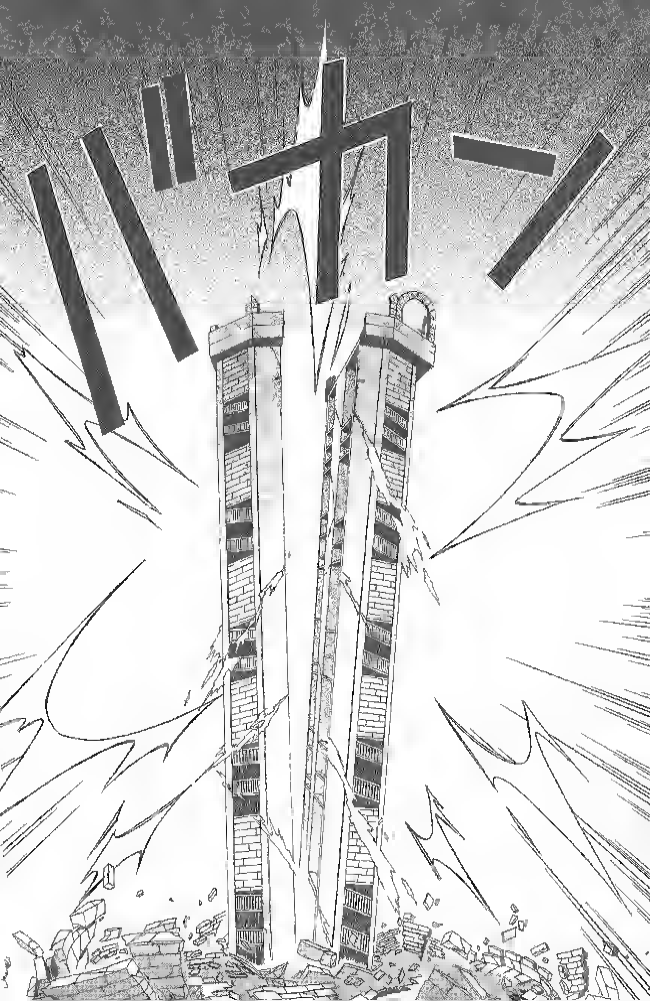

Okay ....

Now let s go betore the dark guardians come Sira


Argh



Did they roll ?
They are here already !
They are fast !
It did block a spell I could not previously.
But this sword ..
And I see that it was able to sustain such pressure
I can't shake away a thought that something is lacking from this legendary sword ....
Is that it though ?


ハナン

!!?
ズゴゴゴゴゴゴゴゴ
ええええええええええ!!?
Eeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeeh !!?

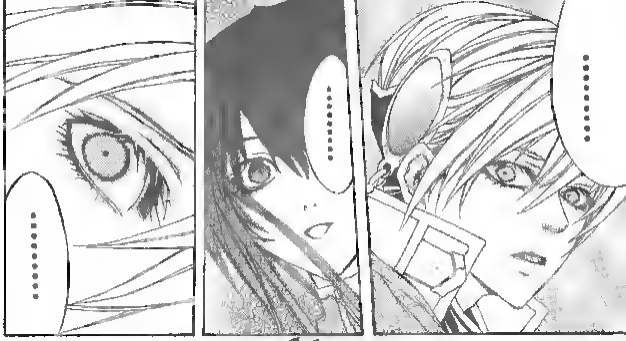
It's said to be able to cut anything... even a mountain.
And look what happened after coming down from the tower with it...

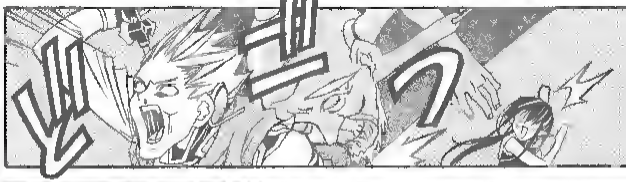
Mirage ..., I've acquired a ridiculously powerful sword....

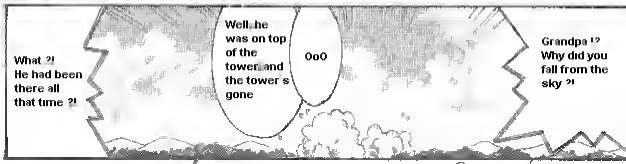
私は
What am I going to do
ここで何をするんだ……？
I need to kill the hero soon
早く勇者を殺して

Hero 何？ he's becoming stronger and even acquired a legendary sword
いくれて

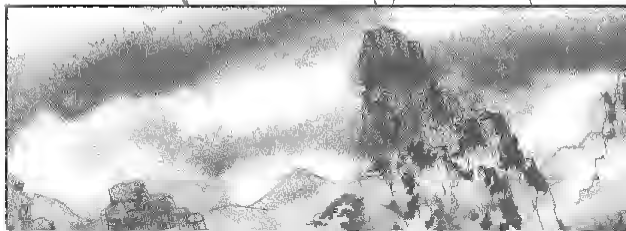
Even though it was for a very short moment, I felt a little of Sira's thoughts
When our souls were exchanged,
Sira told me that she was a weak monster.
But she seemed to posses some unusual powers. Why did she lie?
I started to like you ~ !
Was that a lie, too ? Why is she traveling with me ?
Sira...
Yeah?

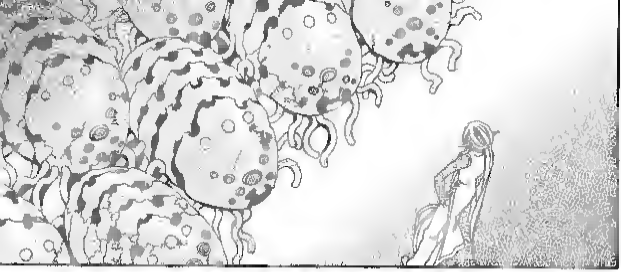

.....
.....
.....


ヒュ〜

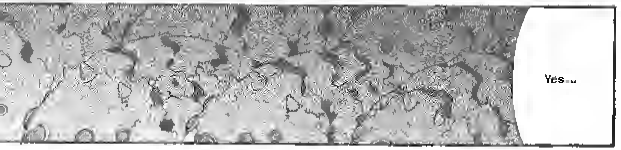

What ?!
He had been there all that time ?!
Well...he was on top of the tower...and the tower's gone
OoO
Grandpa !?
Why did you fall from the sky ?!

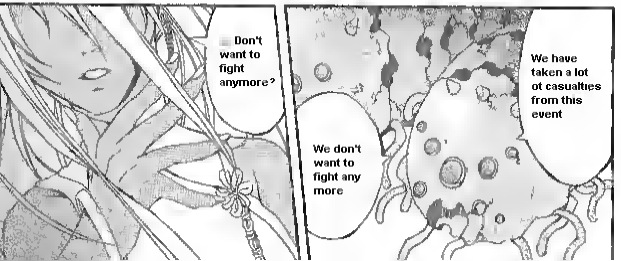
Alright okay !
Let's just run like hell for now !
!&?!?
!#$%
If we don't run fast enough they will catch up...





...So, you are saying that you will not obey me anymore ?

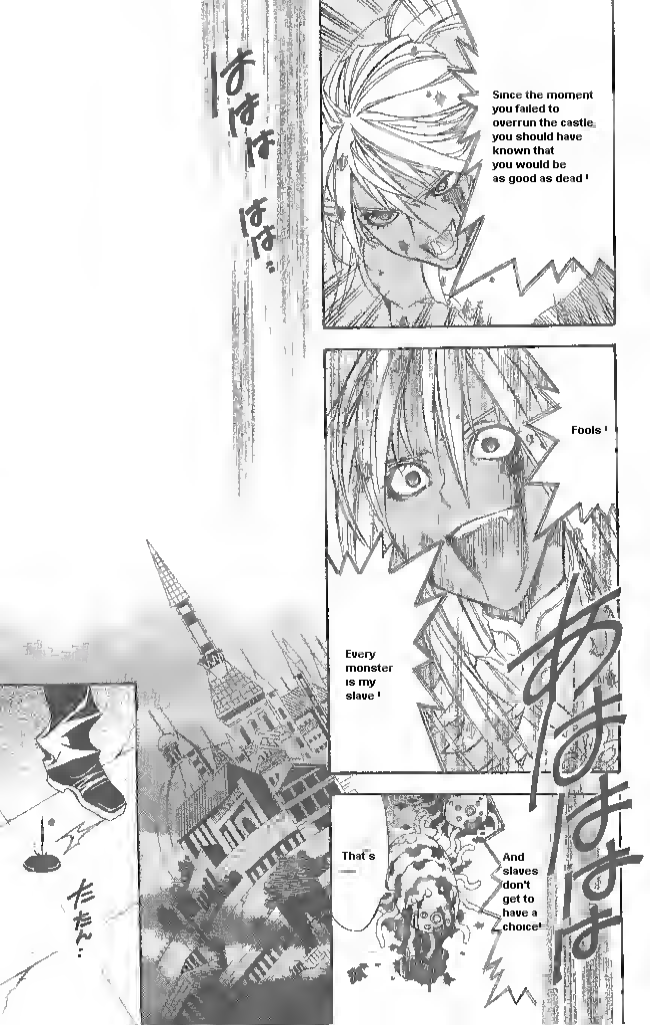

Yes...


...Don't want to fight anymore?
We don't want to fight any more
We have taken a lot ot casualties from this event

Fools ... !
Ha ... ?

ぎゃあああああ!!!

あはははは
はははは!!!
Why...
ズル
ズル
Are you angry because we said we would not follow you ?
Angry? Me ?
Why ?
I told you a moment ago.
That I don't need useless ones.


はは
はは。
Since the moment you failed to overrun the castle, you should have known that you would be as good as dead !
Fools !
Every monster is my slave !
はははは
That's —
And slaves don't get to have a choice!
たたん…

掲載 月刊少年ガンガン増刊ガンガンパワード平成13年No.2～No.4